

## Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management

Oct. 19, 2005

Al Nelson Rocky Flats Coordinator City of Westminster 4800 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Westminster, CO 80031

Dear Mr. Nelson,

The Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (LM) appreciates your comments on the Draft Post-Closure Community Involvement Plan dated August 2005. (The title of this document has been finalized as the Post-Closure Public Involvement Plan (PIP) rather than Community Involvement Plan in the interests of consistency within the document and with CERCLA language).

Legacy Management's position is that the PIP is a broad, transitional document that outlines the methods of communication that have been used by DOE at Rocky Flats in the past and how the public will be informed of site conditions and activities during transition and into the future. It is intentionally designed to be as flexible as possible in order to best meet the needs of DOE and the public and is not intended to codify the communication process. Modifications to the plan will be made as appropriate to meet post-closure public involvement needs.

Legacy Management also feels strongly that other documents and agreements, including the Interim and Long Term Surveillance and Maintenance Plans and the Post-Closure Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement, more appropriately address Westminster's justifiable need for notifications following specific events or conditions.

Finally, LM agrees that communities and stakeholders play a vital role in the decision-making process at Rocky Flats and believes that the best venue for public participation is through the Local Stakeholders Organization, as mandated by Congress, and of which Westminster will be a member.

Legacy Management's response to the specific comments you outlined in your letter are below.

Page 5. The PIP states that "the list of stakeholders includes, but is not limited to;" therefore adding additional names does not add value.

The PIP has been modified to read "RFCLoG is working with DOE and regulators during the cleanup and preparation for the transition of the majority of the site to the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge."

Page 6. LM believes that the most appropriate method for communicating to the public and stakeholders is through the Local Stakeholders' Organization (LSO). Conditions on site have changed significantly and so will the post-closure communications needs and processes.

The PIP is not the appropriate document to address the notifications. Notification protocols are formalized in the current Integrated Monitoring Plan and will be included in the future Interim Surveillance and Maintenance Plan (IS&MP) and the final Long Term Surveillance and Maintenance Plan (LTS&MP).

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Any stakeholder or member of the public has the right to ask questions or relay concerns directly to managers or employees of LM. However, the LSO, as mandated by Congress, will be the primary forum for communication between LM and stakeholders and the public.

- Page 8. Time will be reserved during the quarterly and annual meetings for data exchanges and technical issue discussion. LM believes data exchange meetings in addition to the quarterly meetings will not add value. Quarterly monitoring data will be posted to the LM website in advance of the meetings and hard copies will be provided for LSO members.
- Page 9. Full public involvement will be an integral component of the final disposition of the Reading Room.
- Page 10. See above.
- Page 11. Specific types of tours that will be allowed post-closure have yet to be determined. Individual tour requests will be considered case-by-case and decisions will be based on the purpose of the tour and site conditions. Stakeholder participation in site inspections will be addressed in the IS&MP and the LTS&MP.
- Page 13. The PIP defines post-closure as activities that occur after regulatory completion.
- Page 14. Quarterly data exchange may be conducted as part of the quarterly and annual meetings conducted through the LSO.

Again, thank you for your comments and the opportunity to address your concerns. Please feel free to call me at 303-966-3551 if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Scott R. Surovchak

DOE Office of Legacy Management

Rocky Flats Site Manager